

Patent claims

1. A device (1) for the induction hardening of components (2) which have a circular cross section, especially crankshafts, with two inductor half-shells (4, 5) arranged along a portion of the periphery of the component (2) to be hardened, characterized in that at least one of the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) has only one inductor segment (6) through which current flows.
2. The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that one of the inductor half-shells (5) has two inductor segments (7, 8) and in that the other inductor half-shell (4) has only one inductor segment (6).
3. The device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the inductor half-shell (4) which has the single inductor segment (6) is arranged offset in the longitudinal direction of the component (2) with respect to the inductor half-shell (5) which has the two inductor segments (7, 8) in such a way that the single inductor segment (6) is located centrally between the two inductor segments (7, 8).
4. The device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that between the two inductor segments (7, 8) there is an intermediate space (10), the single inductor segment (6) being arranged centrally with respect to the intermediate space (10).
5. The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) each have only one inductor segment (6, 7).
6. The device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) are

arranged offset in relation to each other in the longitudinal direction of the component (2) to be hardened.

- 5 7. The device as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6,
characterized in that respectively arranged between
the two inductor half-shells (4, 5) and outside the
two inductor half-shells (4, 5) are sliding shoes
10 (11), which are provided for coming into contact
with the component (2) to be hardened.
8. The device as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6,
characterized in that the inductor half-shells (4,
5) are formed as contactlessly operating inductor
15 half-shells (4, 5).